

MONTREAL, JULY 1, 1831.

SIR,

WHEN we issued our last printed circular of the 23d of April, we were in hopes, that our Markets, would assume a steady and firm character for the most important articles of exportable produce, but the change from a warlike to that of a pacific attitude between the principal powers of the Continent of Europe, with other causes, has operated to depress Foreign Markets and consequently this, and we shall now endeavour to take a brief retrospective view, of the Canada Markets, for the last two months, as also give you the actual state of things just now, not venturing to give a decided opinion prospectively.

ASHES.—In our Circular of the 23d April last, we stated the quantity in Market, embracing all that had been received from the close of Navigation last fall, (none having then been Shipped,) at	4,232 BBLs. POTS,	and	2,786 BBLs. PEARLS.
Received from 23d April to 1st May, at	196	—	886
Do. 1st May to 1st June, at	2,477	—	1,497
Do. 1st June to 1st July, at	4,419	—	4,018
	11,324	—	8,687
Shipped to 1st July, - - - -	9,456	—	6,746
Stock on hand this day, - - - -	1,868	—	1,941
In 1830, the quantity of Ashes received into store up to 1st July was	16,934	—	8,765
Shipped to 1st July, of last year, - - - -	12,891	—	6,765
Stock on hand 1st July 1830,	4,043	—	2,000

It will be seen by the above, that the receipts of 1831, up to 1st July, are much short of 1830 to the same period of the year, and that the deficiency is confined almost wholly to Pots, 5,688 Bbls., and only 87 Bbls. Pearls.

The continued advices from Europe, of the dull and declining state of the Ashes Market, made us very apprehensive that Sales would open here at something less than 30s. for Pots, and 33s. for Pearls, and some hundreds of Barrels were forced off at 29s. for Pots, and 32s. 6d. a 33s. for Pearls, but the early arrival of numerous Ships caused a better demand, and we opened Sales on a large Scale, at 30s. 6d. for Pots, and 34s. for Pearls, and judged it very imprudent, (taking as our guide the value in Foreign Markets), to hold for higher prices, but an uncommonly wet month of May, and fore part of June, making the roads in the interior almost impassable, and preventing also the burning of Timber on new Lands, caused a much shorter Supply of Ashes to come forward than was generally anticipated, and in the face of the most discouraging advices from Europe, the demand here exceeded the Supply, and prices advanced 6d. a 1s. per Cwt., and have been maintained almost to the present period. Pots may now be quoted in fair demand, at 30s. d 30s. 6d., and Pearls at 34s. a 34s. 6d., the Spring Ships are rapidly getting off, while the supplies of Ashes seem rather more abundant, & as our London & Liverpool accounts to 24th May, give lower quotations, (Pots were down to 28s. 9d. a 30s., and Pearls 32s. 6d. a 33s.,) we cannot but express our fears, that they will soon give way here a little, but whether they will recover in the autumn, depends on the extent of Supplies, as well as on the state of Foreign Markets.

GRAIN. FLOUR, MEAL.—U. C. Wheat sold freely at from 7s. 6d. a 7s. 9d. the 60 lbs., & Lower Canada of the best samples at from 6s. 9d. a 7s. until about the 10th June when English advices of the 8th May were received, and were so decidedly unfavourable for Wheat and Flour that it caused a suspension of purchases and the price declined 1s. a 1s. 3d. per bushel nor has it yet recovered, but within a day or two there has been evidently a better disposition to purchase, and very fine U. C. has, and will sell at from 6s. 6d. a 6s. 9d.: inferior, 6s. 3d. a 6s. 4d. Lower Canada is neglected at from 5s. 4. a 5s. 6d. A very considerable Stock of Canada Flour had accumulated early after the navigation opened, and was generally held at from 36s. a 37s. 6d. for fine, in the confident expectation of realizing about these rates, when ships should arrive to take it to England, the W. Indies & elsewhere; but shippers to England run more upon Wheat than Flour and very limited quantities of the latter were disposed of, when the unfavourable news from Europe alluded to arrived, and immediately following came the news of the Colonial Trade Bill, admitting American Wheat, Flour, Meal, Salt Provisions, &c. &c. to come into Canada free, either for consumption or export to all the British possessions abroad, and being acted upon immediately caused at least 10,000 bbls. Flour then in bond, to be thrown into the market, and the rapid decline in New York caused a current to turn this way and created such a panic, that some holders have forced Sales of fine Canada Flour at from 27s. 6d. a 28s.—The best brands of Rochester Superfine will now command 27s. 6d. a 28s. 9d. and if too much is not forced on the markets, we hope soon to see the price firmly established at about 30s. either for U. States or Canada Superfine.

KILN DRIED INDIAN MEAL, has been occasionally enquired for, and some would now sell at fair rates.

SALTED PROVISIONS. PORK, was held at rather high prices, and sales to some extent, made in May at 90s. for inspected Mess, 72s. 6d. a 73s. 9d. for Prime Mess, and 62s. 6d. a 65s. for Prime. BEEF, was less saleable, but the small quantities required for shipment, sold at fair rates, Mess, 60s. a 65s., Prime Mess, 45s. a 47s. 6d., Prime, 35s. a 37s. 6d., Cargo, 25s. a 30s.; but since the new Colonial Trade Bill has been announced, it has checked speculation in both Beef and Pork, and holders are willing to accept 2s. 6d. a \$s. per bbl. less, and even at this reduction there seems but little doing, and the stock rather heavy. Very little of Beef or Pork has arrived from the United States since it has been admissible free, nor can we recommend our friends there, to send much this way at present—as should large supplies arrive, and be forced on the market, loss would inevitably ensue instead of profit.

WOOD. The demand for some kinds of Lumber has been good and extensive, while for others it has been languid and limited, White Pine has been in excellent demand selling at 4d. a 5d. While Red Pine has been extremely dull at 7d. a 8d. Oak of large dimensions has been sold at saving prices as have Elm and Ash. Deals have been quick at high prices.—Standard Staves have been very heavy the whole Season—and at prices that will scarcely pay the makers. W. I. Staves have done better, the Stock of Red Pine Timber and standard Staves is said to be heavy and a scarcely any expectation of any material improvement in price—we annex such clauses of the New Colonial Trade Bill as will give a full knowledge of the expected advantages to be derived by our friends in the United States, by opening the Canada Markets to their produce, at the same time we must remark, that the construction put upon the act by our Custom House Officers, is, that American Wheat cannot go to England through Canada as Colonial, nor can Flour though ground in Canada from American Wheat go to England as Colonial.—

Your obed^t. servants,

HORATIO GATES, & Co.

5 July
The best Rochester Fine flour has been forced off at 27/6

R. Grant

*Repeal of Duties upon the im-
portation of Corn, &c.—into
British Possessions in Ameri-
ca.*

*Of Wheat, Flour, &c. into
Canada.*

*Of Wood or Lumber, into No-
va Scotia, &c.*

*And of Wheat, Flour, &c.—
from the British Possessions in
North America into the West
Indies, &c.*

And whereas it is expedient to repeal some of the said Duties, and to alter or vary them &c.; Be it therefore enacted, that from and after the fifteenth day of April, One thousand eight hundred and thirty-one, so much of the said Acts as imposes any duty in any of the *British Possessions in America*, upon the Importation or bringing in of Corn or Grain unground, or of Meal or Flour not made of Wheat, or of Bread or Biscuit, or of Rice, or of Live Stock, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

II. And be it further enacted, That so much of any of the said Acts as imposes any Duty in the Provinces of *Upper or Lower Canada*, upon the importation or bringing in of Wheat Flour, or of Beef, Pork, Hams, or Bacon, or of Wood, or of Lumber, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

III. And be it further enacted, That so much of any of the said Acts as imposes any Duty in *New Brunswick, or Nova Scotia, or Prince Edward's Island*, upon Wood or Lumber, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

IV. And be it further enacted, That so much of any of the said Acts as imposes any Duty, in the *British Possessions* on the Continent of *South America*, or in the *West Indies*, or in the *Bahama or Bermuda Islands*, upon Wheat, Flour, or upon Beef, Pork, Hams, or Bacon, or upon Wood or Lumber, when imported from any of the *British Possessions in North America*, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

R. Grant
Secretary